

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application:

Listing of Claims:

1-15. (Canceled).

16. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in Claim [[15]] 28, further comprising:

setting the increment to a constant value based on a nominal sampling frequency.

17. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in Claim [[15]] 28, further comprising:

comparing an instantaneous presentation time stamp of a packetized elementary data stream used to determine the sampling frequency with an instantaneous count of the counter; and

correcting the increment of the counter according to a comparison result.

18. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in Claim 28, further comprising:
determining the sampling frequency from the data stream having the greatest sampling frequency of any of the available data streams.

19. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in Claim 28, wherein the digital data streams are packetized elementary data streams that include compressed video and audio data streams according to the Moving Picture Expert Group (MPEG) standard.

20. (Canceled).

21. (Previously Presented) The receiving device as recited in Claim 29, wherein the synchronization unit sets an increment of the counter, the increment being determined from a ratio between a program clock reference and a nominal sampling frequency.

22. (Previously Presented) The receiving device as recited in Claim 21, wherein the increment is set to a constant value based on a nominal sampling frequency.

23. (Previously Presented) The receiving device as recited in Claim 21, wherein:

the synchronization unit compares an instantaneous value of the presentation time stamp of the packetized elementary data stream used to determine the sampling frequency with an instantaneous count of the counter; and

the synchronization unit corrects the increment of the counter according to a comparison result.

24. (Previously Presented) The receiving device as recited in Claim 29, wherein:
the unit for correctly determining the sampling frequency determines the sampling frequency from a selected packetized elementary data stream of different packetized elementary data streams; and

the output control unit synchronizes all packetized elementary data streams with the counter.

25. (Previously Presented) The receiving device as recited in Claim 24, wherein the sampling frequency is determined from the elementary data stream having the greatest sampling frequency of any of the available packetized elementary data streams.

26 (Previously Presented) The receiving device as recited in Claim 29, wherein the packetized elementary data streams are compressed video and audio data streams according to the Moving Picture Expert Group (MPEG) standard.

27. (Currently Amended) The receiving device as recited in Claim ~~[[15]]~~ 28,
wherein:

the sampling frequency is determined from a selected packetized elementary data stream of different packetized elementary data streams; and

all packetized elementary data streams are synchronized with the counter.

28. (Currently Amended) A method for generating a counter in a receiving device for digital data streams, comprising:

generating the digital data streams in a transmitting device by sampling analog signals at a sampling frequency synchronized by a system time clock in the transmitting device;

determining the sampling frequency of one of the data streams in the receiving device; ~~and~~

synchronizing the counter with the determined sampling frequency of the one of the data streams;

setting an increment of the counter; and
determining the increment from a ratio between a program clock reference and the
sampling frequency, wherein
the determining the sampling frequency of the one of the data streams in the receiving
device is without the transmitter transmitting a value of the system time clock; and
the frequency of the system time clock in the transmitting device is not the same as
the sampling frequency.

29. (Currently Amended) A receiving device, comprising:
a transport data stream demultiplexer for demultiplexing a transport data stream into packetized elementary data streams and for extracting flags that identify a presentation time stamp for the purpose of initializing a counter;
a unit for correctly determining a sampling frequency of one of the packetized elementary data streams;
an output control unit for synchronizing data streams obtained from the packetized elementary data streams; and
a synchronization unit for synchronizing the counter according to the sampling frequency, wherein the determining the sampling frequency of the one of the packetized elementary data streams is without a transmitter transmitting a value of the system time clock.

30. (Canceled).

31. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in Claim [[30]] 28, wherein a system time clock counter of the receiving unit is controlled by the determined sampling frequency without consideration of a received value of the system time clock of the transmitter.

32. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in Claim 28, wherein the transmission of the transmitting device comprises packetized elementary data streams and presentation time stamps.

33. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in Claim 32, wherein the presentation time stamps indicate a time of transmission.